

COMMENCING EARLY

The House of Representatives Indulges in Lively Skirmish

OVER DISTRIBUTING MESSAGE

Of the President to the Various Committees Clothed with Jurisdiction Over the Subjects Dealt With--The Conflict of Authority Came Between the Ways and Means and Banking Committees, and Then the Battle Raged All Along the Line--Grosvener and Johnson Took Part in the Discussion.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 7.--The session of the house to-day, though it lasted but two hours, witnessed a very lively skirmish over the question of distributing the President's message to the various committees clothed with jurisdiction over the subjects dealt with.

The conflict of authority came between the ways and means committee and the banking and currency committee. The battle raged all along the line. During the debate, General Grosvener, of Ohio, fired the first gun against the civil service law and this also brought the friends and enemies of that measure into action. Mr. Johnson, of Indiana, in a ringing warning declared that if a bill to emasculate the civil service law was passed it would meet the presidential veto. Eventually Mr. Dingley, in deference to the opposition of the members of the banking and currency committee, agreed to a modification of the order of distribution so as to send to the ways and means committee, all matters relating to the "revenues, the bonded debt of the country and the treaties affecting the revenues." The resolution was then adopted.

After the session, Chairman Walker claimed he had won a decisive victory and that his committee, under the order, would have jurisdiction of a measure to, as he expressed it, "convert the greenbacks into gold certificates," but members of the ways and means committee insisted that the changes of verbiage in the order would not affect their jurisdiction and that a measure such as the President suggested, if introduced in the house, would be referred by the speaker to their committee.

Before the debate, which lasted over an hour, had been concluded, the house was plunged into a debate on the currency problem. Mr. Walker, after the re-reading of the resolution, asked with some heat what was left to his committee.

Mr. Dingley replied suavely that all matters relating to banking and currency under the resolution would go to the banking and currency committee.

"There seems to be a decided conflict of opinion as to what matters refer to banking and currency," exclaimed Mr. Walker, rather sharply.

Mr. Dingley protested that the language of the resolution was identical with that of former resolutions on the same subject, but he was immediately bombarded with questions as to the practical effect of the resolution's language.

Mr. Bailey, of Texas, the minority leader, attacked the flank of Mr. Dingley. He wanted to know specifically whether a measure to effectuate the recommendation of the President on the currency would go to the ways and means or the currency committee.

Mr. Dingley avoided direct response. "If it proposed to retire the greenbacks in the manner recommended by the President, would it go?" asked Mr. Bailey.

Mr. Johnson, (Rep., Ind.), pressed Mr. Dingley along the same line. "I would leave the determination of that question to the speaker," at last replied Mr. Dingley. The house laughed.

"It is to avoid that very thing," exclaimed Mr. Johnson, "that I desire this question to be made clear now. Does the chairman of the ways and means committee think a bill embodying the principles of the President's recommendation affects the redemption fund?"

"Then the gentleman indirectly answers our question," exclaimed Mr. Johnson.

By this time it being apparent that debate would be required to dispose of the question at issue, Mr. Dingley and Mr. Bailey arranged for thirty minutes on a side.

Mr. Walker then got the floor and indignantly protested that if the question relating to our legal tender money which lay at the very foundation of our currency and banking laws were to come under the jurisdiction of the ways and means committee, the committee on banking and currency might as well be dissolved.

Mr. Cox, (Dem., Tenn.), the senior Democratic member of the currency committee, seconded the protest of Mr. Walker.

Mr. Wheeler, (Dem., Ala.), at this point got the floor and used a few minutes in a plan for a government armor plate plant in Alabama. He was followed by Mr. Grosvener, (Rep., Ohio), who diverted the whole course of the debate by an attack on the civil service law, which was several times enthusiastically applauded, both by members on the floor and spectators in the galleries. At the outset he repudiated the idea that opposition to the civil service law involved an affront to the President. Congress was empowered to deal with the subject and the President had referred it to Congress. He heartily agreed with the President "that there were places in the classified service which ought to be exempt."

Mr. Grosvener declared that he had kept in touch with the sentiment of the country and that if the question were submitted to the people west of the Allegheny mountains, it would be buried under their overwhelming condemnation. His remarks in denunciation of "life tenure in office," were met with uproarious applause from the galleries, in which many members on the floor heartily joined.

"This was a government for the people and by the people, he declared, and no man should be excluded from participation in the executive branch of the government by accident of birth or the misfortune of early education, who was otherwise qualified. Ohio, he said, had repudiated the civil service law and was opposed to building up an office holding class in this country."

Mr. Boston, (Rep., Penna.), the chairman of the committee on civil service, defended the law and the President's interpretation of it. It was for the executive to administer it. He had full

power to correct any mistake that had been made, and he thought its administration should be left there. He thought any attempt to legislate upon the question must be regarded as an indignity to the executive.

Mr. Bailey, (Dem., Texas), commended Mr. Grosvener's utterances against building up an office holding class in this country--a doctrine, he said, which was almost literally embodied in the Chicago platform. (Democratic applause.)

"That is the only good feature of that platform," ejaculated Mr. Steele, (Rep., Ind.), amid laughter on the Republican side.

"I am glad to relieve the other side of the charge of total depravity," retorted Mr. Bailey.

Mr. Johnson, (Rep., Ind.), after some opening remarks about the stupendous folly of appointing a bimetallic commission to roll over Europe, made a strong speech in defense of the civil service law. General Grosvener, he charged, with being dorelet to his duty as a Republican. That party, he said, was unalterably pledged to the support of the law. Benjamin Harrison and William McKinley, the most distinguished exponents of its policies, had fought for the law in no uncertain language, and General Grosvener, he thought, well merited the rebuke administered to him by Mr. Bailey when the latter charged him with supporting the Chicago platform. (Laughter.) He marvelled that the month-piece of the administration had fallen so low. No portion of the President's message met with more hearty endorsement from him than that relating to the civil service and he warned his colleagues that if they put through a bill in antagonism to the law, it would be vetoed.

Moreover, he said, it was a mistake to imagine that the sentiment of the country opposed it. The law was heartily approved by all except a few "degenerate politicians" who opposed it from selfish motives. The trouble was not with the law, but with its administration by spoilsmen.

Mr. Cochrane, (Dem., Mo.), in a satirical speech spoke of the injustice of turning over a subject which Mr. Walker had freely admitted he knew all about to Mr. Dingley who had fathered a tariff bill that had already produced a forty million dollar deficit.

Mr. Bland, (Dem., Mo.), averred that it was well understood that nothing would be done with the currency problem, and Mr. Bodine, (Dem., Mo.), alleged that the civil service law was a humbug which the west and south opposed. The latter gave some illustrations of its operations, and caused a laugh by the statement that Mr. Cleveland had been some time in the white house before he discovered that the United States were not bounded on the west by the Allegheny mountains.

During the progress of the debate, Messrs. Walker and Johnson had consulted with Mr. Dingley and a modification of the resolution of distribution was agreed upon. It struck out the words, "the national finances, the public debt, the preservation of the government credit" and gave the ways and means committee jurisdiction over all matters in the message relating "to the revenue, the bonded debt of the United States and to the treaties of the United States affecting the revenue." When this amendment was presented the opposition withdrew and the resolution was adopted without division.

The house then, at 2 o'clock, adjourned.

A new member in Mr. H. De S. Money, of Mississippi, was introduced in the senate to-day and after brief criticism of the form of his credentials, the oath of office was administered to him. Mr. Money was assigned to the seat formerly occupied by Mr. Daniel, of Virginia, the latter securing the seat in the center of the Democratic side, which was occupied by the late Senator George. During the session one hundred and eight bills, many of which were private pension measures, were introduced in addition to several joint resolutions, and some senate resolutions. An interesting contest for precedence in consideration between Mr. Lodge's immigration bill and the proposed legislation to confer authority upon the President to act for the protection of the government's interest at the sale of the Kansas Pacific railroad was pending at the close of the session. The probability is that it will be amicably arranged before the senate convenes to-morrow.

WAYS AND MEANS SUB-COMMITTEES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.--At a special meeting of the ways and means committee to-day, Chairman Dingley named the sub-committees which will consider the important measures referred to this committee, as follows:

Customs--Dingley, Payne, Dalsell, Hopkins, Grosvener, Bailey and McMillin.

Customs administration--Payne, Russell, Dingley, Johnson, Steele, Swanson and Robertson.

Internal revenue--Evans, Dooliver, Steele, Russell, Dingley, McMillin and McMillan.

Public debt--Dalsell, Johnson, Dingley, Bailey and Wheeler.

Reciprocity and commercial treaties--Hopkins, Dooliver, Tawney, Payne, Dingley, McMillin and McMillan.

Revenue from miscellaneous subjects--Grosvener, Russell, Tawney, Steele, Evans, Swanson and Wheeler.

PENSION APPROPRIATION BILL.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.--The sub-committee on pensions of the house committee on appropriations agreed upon an attack on the civil service law, which was several times enthusiastically applauded, both by members on the floor and spectators in the galleries. At the outset he repudiated the idea that opposition to the civil service law involved an affront to the President. Congress was empowered to deal with the subject and the President had referred it to Congress. He heartily agreed with the President "that there were places in the classified service which ought to be exempt."

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SECRETARY GAGE'S REPORT

The Condition of the Treasury--Various Recommendations Made to Congress--Banking and Currency Reforms Suggested.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.--The annual report of the secretary of the treasury, sent to Congress to-day, shows that the total receipts for the year ended June 30, 1897, were \$430,575,167, and the expenditures \$448,439,622, leaving a deficit for the year of \$18,052,454. The receipts for the year, however, exceeded those for the year 1896 by \$20,111,759. The customs it is shown yielded \$176,554,126, and internal revenue sources \$146,688,574. As compared with 1896 this is an increase in the customs of \$16,532,574 and internal revenue \$4,342,721. The secretary, at some length, argues the need of a reform in the currency and in conclusion recommends the enactment of legislation establishing a department of the treasury to be designated as the issue and redemption department in which is to be deposited \$125,000,000 in gold to be used only for redemption purposes and all silver now held in the treasury for redemption purposes and also all silver bought under the act of 1890. He further recommends that the sum of \$200,000,000 in United States legal tender notes be also deposited in this division, to be disbursed therefrom only upon the receipt of gold. It is also recommended that provisions be made for the issue of refunding loan ten year 2 1/2 per cent bonds payable in gold, in exchange for any part or all of the outstanding loans of the United States.

The secretary also recommends that national banks be authorized with a minimum capital of \$25,000 in places having a population of 2,000 or less, and that the rate of taxation on circulating notes secured by deposit of bonds be reduced to one-half of one per cent per annum; also that banks be permitted to issue circulating notes to the par value of the refunding bonds deposited by them in the treasury and further, that the banks be allowed to deposit as security with the treasury greenbacks, treasury notes, or silver certificates to a total amount of the \$200,000,000 against which national bank notes shall be issued to them to an equal amount.

After the banks have deposited such notes, greenbacks, treasury notes and silver certificates to the amount of 50 per cent of their capital, they shall be permitted to issue bank notes, in addition to the 50 per cent thus provided, to the extent of 25 per cent for which the banks assets shall be liable. He also recommends that the guaranty of payment by the government be extended to all circulating notes of the bank whether issued against deposited security or against assets.

To secure the government against loss if any, a tax of 20 per cent should be levied on unsecured circulation to create a safety fund to be invested by the comptroller in United States bonds. In addition the government should be further protected, the secretary says, by having first lien upon all assets in case of failure of the issuing bank. It is further recommended that all notes be redeemed in the city of New York and at other sub-treasuries at the expense of the banks, and that the issue of national bank notes be restricted to the denomination of \$10 and upwards.

"TRADING STAMPS" ILLEGAL.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.--The court of appeals of the District of Columbia in an opinion by Justice Shepard to-day, held that "trading stamps" are illegal within the meaning of the act of Congress prohibiting lotteries and gift enterprises. The trading stamp company had arranged with many merchants by which trading stamps were given purchasers and when a certain number of stamps were obtained, articles could be obtained for them at the company's store.

PETITION OF OLD VETERANS.

DAYTON, Ohio, Dec. 7.--A petition signed by 3,000 veteran inmates of the central branch National Military Home, near this city, was mailed this evening to Senator Hanna in Washington to present to Congress. The petition is strong, and in respectful terms sustains the proposition of General Breckinridge, inspector general of the army, to change the management of all soldiers' homes so that the secretary of war will have direct control of the same as the regular army home at Washington. The veterans especially commend the recommendation of General Breckinridge providing for commutation of rations, eight or ten dollars a month, while on furlough or permanent leave from the home, as this money in addition to their pensions would enable them to live comfortably with their families away from the soldiers' home. They urge that room will thus be made in the homes for destitute soldiers who are now barred from the over-crowded institutions.

COAL PRICES AT CINCINNATI.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 7.--The coal shippers of the Kanawha district in West Virginia, at a meeting held in Cincinnati December 3, established a selling agency to handle the entire output of the Kanawha coal shipping association. Donald McDonald, of Cincinnati, was chosen as president, and J. R. Renahan, of the coal department of the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad, was made vice president and general manager. Pittsburgh river operators who were present at the meeting agreed not to put coal into the Cincinnati market at less than \$2 per ton, and the Kanawha people made an agreement by which prices at Cincinnati shall range between \$2.75 and \$3.25, according to quality.

BETTER STAY AT HOME, PAUL.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 7.--Paul Alexander Johnston, the blind reader, says he is going to make a trip around the world blindfold. At the same time he is going to try and beat the record for globe trotting. "I have about made arrangements for the trip," said Johnston at his hotel to-day. "A great many of my friends have tried to persuade me to give up the idea, but I do not think I shall. Of course it will be a great strain on me, but I mean to have the blindfold or some high official in Washington start a packet of letters around the world, and after it has been gone about three weeks I will be blindfolded and start to follow it. The blindfold will not be removed from my eyes during the entire trip, and I will follow the packet and try to overtake it. I think I can do this."

THOROUGHLY LYNCHED.

CARSON, Nev., Dec. 7.--Abram Uber, who killed Hans Anderson at Jardnerville, last week, was taken from the Genoa jail to-day, stripped of his clothing and hanged. His body was riddled with bullets, by an angry mob of twenty-five men, supposed to be from Jardnerville.

CHILTON SHORTAGE.

The Ex-Secretary of State Sold His Land.

BUT CONSUMMATION OF DEAL

Has Been Delayed by Death in the Family of the Purchaser--As Yesterday was the Last Day of Grace, and Chilton was Unable to Pay, the Board of Public Works Instructed the Attorney General to Bring Suit Against the Bondsmen. Mr. Chilton, However, Assures the State Authorities the Claim will be Paid in Full in a Few Days.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE INTELLIGENCER.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Dec. 7.--On Monday, the 29th of November, ex-Secretary of State W. E. Chilton sold his real estate to A. E. Humphreys and others for \$22,000. The deeds and notes were drawn up, but the day following Mr. Humphreys' children were stricken with diphtheria and one died, and was buried yesterday. Mr. Humphreys has been unable to attend to any business, and consequently the deal has not been consummated.

To-day was the last day given Mr. Chilton by the board of public works in which to settle, and when he was unable to make a payment the board instructed Attorney General Rucker to bring suit against Chilton's bondsmen at once.

Governor MacCorkle appeared for Mr. Chilton and informed the board that as soon as Mr. Humphreys' children were buried, that Mr. Chilton would pay part, if not all due the state. But as the board of public works had already instructed the attorney general by resolution to bring suit at once, it would not retract its action.

Mr. Chilton was seen by an Intelligencer correspondent and he stated that he had made the deal and would be able to liquidate the entire amount due the state as soon as Mr. Humphreys returns.

EASTHAM THE AGGRESSOR

According to Many Witnesses who Testified in the Murder Trial Yesterday, Tried to Provoke Thompson to Shoot.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE INTELLIGENCER.

PARSONS, W. Va., Dec. 7.--Thomas Wheeler testified in the Eastham trial to-day, that he was in Parsons on the 18th of last March, and that he and Frank Thompson were invited to go to Davis on the special that evening with Doctor Brown, who had arranged for the train, and who told witness and Thompson that he had guaranteed the railroad company \$50 to secure the same, and he wanted to get everybody to go who would pay the fare, so he would not get stuck on his guarantee.

Witness saw Thompson enter the car, closely followed by Eastham, who applied a villainous epithet to Thompson. Coming down the aisle Eastham overtook Thompson, and either bumped him or struck him, and Thompson turned and looked back at him but said nothing. Then as Thompson dropped into a seat Eastham slapped him, and the firing commenced. Witness did not know who shot first.

D. A. McCrea saw Thompson drop into a seat very close to witness, with Eastham on his heels, who called Thompson a very vile name. Thompson did not reply. Eastham then slapped Thompson, backed away a step or two, and the shooting began. Witness never for an instant lost sight of Thompson's revolver from the time it was drawn, and he swears two shots were fired by somebody before Thompson fired at all, but he does not say they were fired by Eastham, as the latter's back was toward witness, while Thompson was facing him. But two shots were fired before Thompson's pistol faltered, and while his weapon was down he fired.

Marlin Houston, F. Gum, Clarence Taylor, William Hennig, B. D. Woodford, and J. H. Good each heard Eastham call Thompson vile names, to which Thompson said nothing; saw Eastham slap him, and heard the shooting, but did not know who fired first.

MURDER OVER A GAME OF CARDS.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE INTELLIGENCER.

WELCH, W. Va., Dec. 7.--At Greenbrier, this county, "Mac" Wade and a number of companions were engaged in a card game in a shanty. "Sam" Brown entered, watched the game a while, stole a card out of the deck and gave it to a woman who was playing. This caused a row between Wade and Brown, which ended in Wade shooting Brown through the head, killing him almost instantly. Wade was arrested at the point of a Winchester by Constable John Calloway and his brother, brought to this place and lodged in jail. Wade is one of the lowest characters in this section.

YOUTHFUL HORSE THEIVES.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE INTELLIGENCER.

HUNTINGTON, W. Va., Dec. 7.--Two boys named Roby, aged 12 and 14, took a horse belonging to Charles Armstrong last night, and started to Virginia. They were pursued several miles but eluded the pursuers, and went on their way, and telegrams have been sent to Charleston and other points to capture them. They were punished by their mother and took this method of leaving.

KENTUCKY MURDERER CAUGHT.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE INTELLIGENCER.

WELCH, W. Va., Dec. 7.--Clark Barnes, who was wanted for the murder of his step-son, at Ashland, Ky., in 1896, was arrested yesterday at the home of his father-in-law, near Cedar Bluff, by Detective Frank Williams, and lodged in jail at Bluefield. He will be taken to Kentucky immediately to face the charges against him.

VOICES POOL BALL BILL.

ATLANTA, GA., Dec. 7.--Governor Atkinson this afternoon vetoed the anti-pool ball bill. He sent a message to the house, stating that he had vetoed the measure as he thought the question of whether college boys should play football should be left with the faculties of the various institutions. It is possible an effort will be made to pass the bill over the governor's veto, but it is not at all likely such an effort would succeed.

PENNSYLVANIA COMPANY'S PURCHASE.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 7.--The Pennsylvania Railroad Company has bought out the Brooklyn Annex Company, operating ferryboats between Jersey City and Brooklyn. It will be operated as a branch of the Pennsylvania system.

HAYTI HUMBLER

By Germany--The Little Republic Compelled to Accede to All Demands--Emperor William's Ill-Considered Remarks.

PORT AU PRINCE, Hayti, Dec. 7.--

The trouble between Germany and Hayti appears to be settled. The Haytian government has saluted the German flag, and the foreigners who had sought refuge on board ships in this harbor, have returned to their homes.

It is understood that the question of the indemnity demanded by Germany, for the alleged illegal arrest and imprisonment of Herr Emil Lueders, a German subject, has been settled to the satisfaction of Germany, and that all the demands of that country have been agreed to by the government of Hayti, in face of the display of force made by Germany, and under the threat of a bombardment of the defensive works of the port unless these demands were agreed to within eight hours following the time the German ultimatum was delivered yesterday morning, shortly after the arrival at this port of the two German cruisers sent to back up the demands of the German minister here, Count Schwerin.

The first part of the settlement took place at 6 o'clock last night when the Haytian fleet formally saluted the German flag from the flagship of the fleet of Hayti, the Crete-A-Pierrot, a small vessel of 940 tons, armed with a few guns of light calibre.

Admiral Kilick, the Haytian commander, had charge of the formal salute of the German flag. While the flag of the republic was being dipped on board the Crete-A-Pierrot to the standard of Germany, the band of the Haytian navy played the German national anthem and the Haytian flag-ship fired twenty-one guns, which were answered by the German flagship, the Charlotte, which is used as a school ship.

Naturally there is a strong feeling of resentment against the government on account of the humiliation inflicted upon the country by Germany, but it is not thought that anything more serious than a ministerial crisis will result.

LOOK HERE, "BILLY," THAT WON'T DO.

BERLIN, Dec. 7.--Emperor William, talking over the trouble between Germany and Hayti, over the Lueders incident and referring to the Haytians, is quoted as saying:

"They are a contemptible crowd of negroes, slightly inoculated with French civilization. My school ships, even though only manned by boys, will teach them manners."

MISSIONARY MURDERS

Only a Pretext for Germany Occupying Kiaochow Bay, China.

PEKIN, Dec. 7.--The Chinese government has caused it to be made known that up to the time of the German occupation of Kiaochow Bay, no claim was made by Germany for reparation as a result of the murder of the two missionaries, Niles and Henle, and that there were no other differences between the two governments. Consequently, the government points out, the missionary question is regarded as a pretext to obtain a naval station which, it is shown, Germany has long coveted. The Chinese government, it is said in conclusion, will never consent to the Germans remaining at Kiaochow Bay, as their presence there deprives China of a harbor which since the war with Japan has been regarded as the most suitable naval base of operations.

GERMAN REVERES IN AFRICA.

LONDON, Dec. 7.--According to mail

advices from Batanga, on the West African coast, southeast of the Cameroons, in the German colony, a German expedition consisting of six white officers and 200 natives, recently met with a severe reverse at the hands of the Moules, a warlike tribe that has long harassed the German trade caravans to the south of Batanga, in the Moulini country, and especially along the Camero river, which divides French and German territories. A German warship with troops is already en route to reinforce the expedition that is being organized to punish the tribesmen.

SHOCKING INHUMANITY

Unearthed in Westmoreland County, Pa. Maltreatment of an Insane Man.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Dec. 7.--Humane

Agent O'Brien has just unearthed one of the most shocking cases of maltreatment of the insane ever recorded in Western Pennsylvania, at Cline's Hollow, Westmoreland county, this state. After a careful investigation, the officer ascertained that Franklin Pearce Cline, now forty-three years old, has been chained for the past eleven years to an iron bar with a chain which will not permit him to move in any direction more than six or eight feet. He is a raving maniac, and during his long period of incarceration has been kept constantly in a state of nudity.

Agent O'Brien says Cline was kept in a small outhouse constructed especially for him. When he called to see him the room was in a filthy condition, and there was not a vestige of anything for the sufferer to lay upon. The state board of lunacy has been notified and is now investigating the case. It is thought that the Westmoreland county authorities will be asked to take charge of the man, as the estate is amply able to pay all necessary expenses.

WILL SETTLE ALL CONTENTIONS.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 7.--The vote by

telegraph by the window glass association on the wage proposition made by the manufacturers, was counted to-night. The propositions carried among the blowers and gashers by a vote of 1,280 to 975. This result will enable the wage committee of the manufacturers and workers at their meeting on Thursday to settle all contentions and sign the scale for the coming year. By this vote of the association, the factories will start up at an advance in wages of sixteen per cent instead of eighteen per cent asked by the men. As the manufacturers have offered the cutters and flateners an advance of 12 per cent as against the 10 1/2 demanded, it is believed that an agreement will soon be reached as to this scale thereby putting the factories of the country at work in full at an early date.

THE MESSAGE IN MADRID.

MADRID, Dec. 7.--The cabinet to-day considered dispatches from Senor de Lome, Spanish minister at Washington, containing extracts from President McKinley's message to Congress. The ministers agreed in considering the message generally favorable to Spanish interests. Its tone has produced a good effect in official circles, but it is pointed out that "the paragraph relating to the alleged right of the United States to intervene in the Cuban question are calculated to displease the Spanish people."

INSURGENT PRISONERS RELEASED.

MANANA, Dec. 7.--To-day Captain General Blanco, the governor general, signed a decree releasing forty-one persons who have been imprisoned on charges of complicity in the insurgent movement.

A PATHETIC SCENE

At the Bedside of Mother McKinley Yesterday Morning

WHEN THE PRESIDENT ARRIVED.

The Aged Mother of a Distinguished Son

Was Permitted to Gaze Upon Him Once More, and Recognize His Features Before Her Eyes Were Closed by Death. The Meeting Between Them Too Sacred for Public Exploitation--Miraculous Rally of the Patient--Was Resting Easier at Latest Accounts, and May Survive for Some Time.

CANTON, O., Dec. 7.--Once more the children of Nancy Allison McKinley have gathered around her couch and the reunion is complete. The President and Mrs. McKinley arrived to-day to find the aged mother still living. With the children are Mrs. Abigail Osborne, mother of Consul William Osborne; Miss Sarah Duncan, who came from Chicago, where she is attending school, her brother Jack Duncan, and the other grandchildren, who have been summoned from their studies and their homes, together with other relatives, making the immediate family circle almost complete.

In the midst of the deep sorrow of the family there is a feeling of joy that the President has been permitted to reach his mother's bedside before the inevitable dissolution came, and that the mother might again realize his presence and he know that he has been recognized. These hopes have been granted them and they are now patiently and resignedly awaiting the end. The President and Mrs. McKinley together with other relatives from the east came early in the morning, the latter part of the journey being made on a special train. They were taken to the homestead as rapidly as possible and as they entered the sick room the dying woman rallied and for a moment plainly evidenced her recognition of her son and others about her.

The scene was a pathetic one that beggars description. In the midst of it all there was a joy in the breast of the President. He had again been permitted to see his mother alive. He had answered all the obligations of his country. He had fulfilled his vows to his people. He had witnessed the assembling of Congress and had been cheered with the news at the same time that his mother was better.

In that little upper room, at the McKinley homestead this morning there was a scene that is almost too sacred to pen to write. The eyes of all present were filled with tears as they witnessed the remarkable and almost miraculous rally of the President's mother from the unconscious state into which she had fallen early this morning.

As her famous son entered the room accompanied by his wife and his niece, Miss Mabel McKinley, the sister of the President, Miss Helen said: "Mother, here are William and Ida." He knelt by her bedside, kissed her tenderly, reverently, and as he did so she put her arms about his neck and signified that she knew him.

The President has remained almost constantly at the bedside since his arrival and kept to-night's vigil, relieving others of the children who have been so constantly at the bedside.

He kept close to the house all day, going out only for a little air and exercise, taking a walk near the house. At 11:30 o'clock to-night Mother McKinley was still resting easily. Dr. Phillips at his last visit reported that she was resting easier than any time during the day and the morning would see her alive.

ABRAHAMOVIC'S POSTION.

VIENNA, Dec. 7.--Dr. Abrahamovic, the former president of the lower house of the Austrian parliament, has written a letter to the Neue Freie Presse denying that he resigned the presidency and his seat in the house on the ground that he has been appointed a member of the upper house of the reichsrath. He adds: "However, I will retire spontaneously so soon as the Germans and Czechs have agreed on the language question, and all the questions in dispute are settled, above all so soon as the provisional prolongation of the Ausgleich is assured. Thus my own personality will be the last obstacle to the chamber being summoned to